

# Tosco

## Art in Private Development Fact Sheet



City of Tempe  
Cultural Services  
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www.tempe.gov/arts



Photo: Craig Smith

### Artwork

*Artifact I and II; Maze Sculptures*

### Development

Tosco

### Address

1500 N. Priest Drive

### Artist

Barbara Grygutis

### Completion

1998

### Material

Native stone on formed concrete and earth with sandstone cap. Earth and sod.

**Description:** This land sculpture (10-feet x 100-feet x 100-feet) forms a sculptural environment which appears to have been unearthed, as if it was part of an ancient archaeological dig. The intention is that employees will have a place to sit and have lunch midday. The stone was all dug locally. Important to the design are the straight lines formed despite the roughness of the rock.

**Funding:** This project was funded by the individual developer as a requirement of Tempe's Art in Private Development Ordinance.

**Artist biography:** Barbara Grygutis was born in Hartford, Conn., and raised in Israel. She received BFA and MFA degrees from the University of Arizona. She has created works of art for public spaces since 1971 and has completed more than 50 commissions of public art throughout the country. Grygutis is a resident of Tucson and has more than 20 years of experience working in collaborative situations to create environmental works that give meaning and identity to public spaces. She has completed projects throughout the United States, including large-scale works in Washington, D.C., Pennsylvania, California, Colorado and New Jersey. Barbara's approach to the creation of a work of art is to embody a universal theme accessible to all age groups and to create a sense of timelessness and beauty in the built environment.

**Artist statement:** "I create environmental sculptures of human proportions and reference using architectural elements, familiar objects and elements from nature. The works are large scale environmental sculpture. These works of art are thematically based and are designed to create visual statements relating to the communities or the sites for which they are created. The works of art combine realistic images and symbols with architectural forms to span a broad range of subject matter and materials. Among the sculptural elements the viewer can experience the interplay between art and nature. All of my public works of art are envisioned to share the following qualities: to create a place of reflection, a sense of timelessness, and a sense of place and to provide interest to adults and children alike."

Tempe's Art in Private Development program is managed by city of Tempe Cultural Services staff with input from the Tempe Municipal Arts Commission, a 15-member, mayor-appointed advisory board.